

Valerian ordered "all persons must conform to the Roman ceremonial" and forbade any Christian assemblage.

Pope SIXTUS II resented and was put to death with 4 of his deacons.

Bishop CYPRIAN of Carthage was beheaded.
The Bishop of TARRAGONA was burned alive.

257

DURANT

Edict of Valerian against
Christians

257

Valerian campaigned (was commemorated on coins) against the Persians. A victory in 257

Meanwhile Gallenus was winning victories against the Germans in the west.

257AD

Goths divided into Visigoths
and Ostrogoths, invade Black
Sea Area.

257 AD

Franks invade Spain

257

Victory over Persians
1st anti-Christian edict.

257 AD

Persecution under Valerian
who attempted to destroy the
Church as a social structure.

257 & 258

Valerian's edict was aimed specifically against Christians and the Church hierarchy and knights and senators in particular, in a systematic attempt to eradicate Christianity from the upper echelons of Roman society. Valerian's reign was the most troubled and unhappy since the foundation of the Roman Empire, and his capture by the Persians came close

to hanging the whole edifice to its
knees.